

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A static charge neutralizing assembly for a surface having a changing position, said assembly comprising:
 - a carrier;
 - a static charge dissipating device carried by said carrier;
 - a drive mechanism connected to said carrier for moving a position of said carrier and thereby a position of said dissipating device;
 - a sensor for detecting a changing position of the surface and for providing a signal indicative thereof; and
 - a control unit connected to said sensor and to said drive mechanism to active said drive mechanism in response to signals received from said sensor.
2. The assembly of claim 1, said static charge dissipating device being spaced from the surface.
3. The assembly of claim 2, said drive mechanism including a hydraulic cylinder.
4. The assembly of claim 2, said drive mechanism including two hydraulic cylinders.
5. The assembly of claim 4, said sensor being a photoelectric sensor.
6. The assembly of claim 5, said carrier being movably held in a support.

7. The assembly of claim 1, said drive mechanism including a pneumatic cylinder.
8. The assembly of claim 1, said sensor being a photoelectric sensor.
9. The assembly of claim 1, said carrier being movably held in a support.
10. A static charge neutralizing assembly for a web roll changing in diameter, said assembly comprising:
 - a stationary support;
 - a carrier moveably held by said support;
 - a static charge dissipating device on said carrier;
 - a drive mechanism for moving said carrier; and
 - a sensor and control system for sensing the roll diameter and operating said drive mechanism in response to roll diameter changes.
11. The assembly of claim 10, said static charge dissipating device being held by said carrier in spaced relation to the roll.
12. The assembly of claim 10, said drive mechanism including a pneumatic cylinder.
13. The assembly of claim 10, said drive mechanism including two pneumatic cylinders.
14. The assembly of claim 13, said static charge dissipating device being held by said carrier in spaced relation to the roll.

15. The assembly of claim 10, including a proximity sensor on said carrier adapted for detecting a surface of the roll.
16. The assembly of claim 15, said sensor being a photoelectric sensor.
17. The assembly of claim 10, said support including standards at ends of the roll and a cross member between said standards.
18. The assembly of claim 17, said carrier being held between said standards, and said drive mechanism including at least one actuator operatively connected between said cross member and said carrier.
19. A method for dissipating static electric charges on a rotating roll having a web wound thereon, said method including steps of:
 - positioning a static charge dissipating device adjacent a surface of the roll;
 - detecting changes in diameter of the roll; and
 - moving the static charge dissipating device in response to detected changes in the diameter of the roll.
20. The method of claim 19, including maintaining a spaced relation between the surface of the roll and the static charge dissipating device.